



The 12th Edition

Volume 5, Issue 12

Headquarters, Twelfth Air Force Supplement to the *Desert Airman*

Friday, December 12, 2003

News Briefs

Monthly ceremony

Twelfth Air Force's monthly awards and promotion ceremony is 10 a.m. Dec 31 in the Battle Staff Conference Room, Bldg. 12.

Honorees need to be in place by 9:30 a.m. For more information, call 12 AF/PA at 8-6053.

Holiday weekend

Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 are designated Air Combat Command Family Days, making the Christmas and New Year's holidays four-day weekends.

Everyone is encouraged to enjoy the extended weekends in a fun, but safe way using the following tips:

1. If you drink, designate a driver before going out or call the AADD program at 850-2233.
2. When planning an outing, apply personal risk management to ensure you return home safely.
3. If driving home for the holidays, avoid extended driving periods, take frequent breaks to stretch and don't try to "make that extra mile" before stopping for the night.



TSgt. Karin Wickwire

The extra mile

Col. Christopher Haave, 612th Air Operations Group Commander, gets a cup of water at the 12th Air Force manned water station during the Tucson Marathon on Dec. 7. More photos are available on the S Drive/Public/B12/PA/Marathon folder.

Commander sends troops thanks

In the nearly six months I've been the Twelfth Air Force Commander, I have visited all of our Twelfth Air Force wings, direct reporting units, forward operating locations and nine of the countries with major Air Forces in the SOUTHCOM AOR.

I have been privileged to see firsthand the hard work that dedicated Twelfth Air Force warriors are doing. From record-breaking surges to excelling at inspections, from strenuous exercises to local community assistance, you have proven yourselves to be professionals, dedicated to the mission at hand.

I would like everyone to take some time during this holiday season to reflect on what an amazing year 2003 has been for our Air Force. The operations tempo has been extremely high, and you have continually risen to the challenge. Each member of 12th Air Force has either

directly or indirectly supported Operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM, and NOBLE EAGLE in addition to other deployments and training which required lengthy time away from family and friends ensuring vital tasks were accomplished for the security of our Nation.

Your sacrifices and hard work to make our mission a success are greatly appreciated. I am proud of our accomplishments and of those of the Air Force and our country. We are prosecuting a war on terror around the globe and we are making the world a safer place for future generations.

While you reflect on 2003, please also think about the road ahead. The war on terror will continue, as will the high operations tempo. So I encourage you to enjoy your well-deserved time off and to spend time with family, friends and coworkers. Most importantly, take care of your wingmen. Senseless accidents can cause unimaginable pain, especially during the holiday season. Often,



TSgt. Karin Wickwire

(From Left) CMSgt. Michael Lane, Lt. Gen. Randall Schmidt, and Brig. Gen. Mark Stearns send seasons greetings to 12th Air Force.

simply saying, "That is not a good idea," can prevent dire consequences.

Alcohol, fatigue, inexperience and distraction cause drivers to be greater threats during the holidays; be on your guard. Our country and Air Force need you back after the holidays, refreshed and ready to take on the challenges of 2004.

From myself, Vice Commander Brigadier General Mark Stearns, Command Chief Master Sergeant Mike Lane and our families, thank you for all that you have done for our Air Force, and for our great nation. Enjoy the holiday season and cherish all the good that life has to offer you. We wish you all the very best during the holiday season and for 2004.

RANDALL M. SCHMIDT
Lieutenant General, USAF
Commander

New 12 AF force protection project begins January

By TSgt. Karin Wickwire
Public Affairs

Construction on a new force protection measure for the 12th Air Force Headquarters building begins in early January.

The force protection measure includes a bollard (steel post) and steel cable security system around the perimeter of Bldg. 12 and a new entry control point, with a guard house, which will be located near Quijota Blvd., according to TSgt

Fred Spano, 355th Wing Anti-Terrorism Office.

The security portion of this design was tested by the Force Protection Battlelab in San Antonio, Texas. There, a team of security forces specialists, civil engineers and other specialists used computer simulations to determine optimum distance for the security system placement to mitigate possible blast damage, Spano said.

"Through research and other computer

modeling, we've discovered the impact of blast damage falls exponentially for each meter further from the blast center," according to MSgt Duane Judy, 355th Wing Anti-Terrorism Office. "Basically, at a meter away the blast damage is sufficient to kill or destroy a building but at a distance of 25 meters, the damage may be limited to broken windows

See CONSTRUCTION, Pg. 2

CONSTRUCTION

(Continued from Page 1)

and minimum injuries.”

Once security requirements were determined, the design portion was turned over to John Mettler, an architect in the 355th Civil Engineer Squadron, to make the finished project eye-pleasing as well as a protective measure.

“The new guardhouse will resemble Bldg. 12, even down to the copper top,” Mettler said. It has also been designed to include a waiting area for visitors and a front desk with a computer station and telephone for on-duty ECP guards.

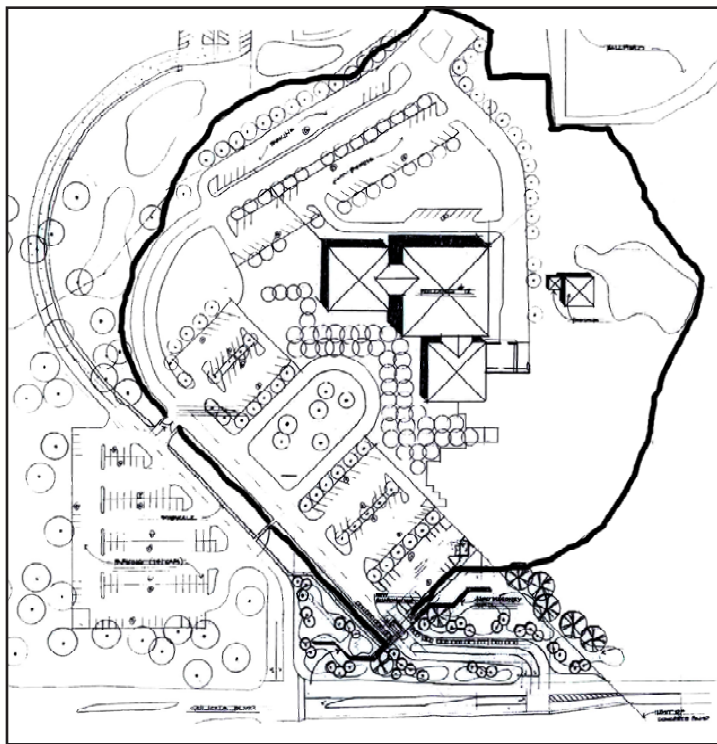
There will also be new landscaping near the new ECP which includes native plants and ties into the existing landscaping, Mettler said.

Another change to the current layout will include a new road and parking lot for the baseball fields. The new road was designed since the bollard and steel cable security system will restrict the current access, Mettler added.

In addition to the new road, a pedestrian entrance will be built across from the entry to the horseshoe drive for Bldg 12 workers who park in the southwest visitor's parking area. Visitors will use the new handicapped accessible walkway to check in at the ECP before proceeding to the building where a sponsor will meet the visitor to allow them entry into the building.

Once construction begins, a large part of the south parking lot along Quijota Blvd. will be closed permanently and some parking spaces in the southwest parking lot will be closed temporarily, Mettler said.

Limited parking should be a temporary inconvenience



The thick black line represents the new security system.

according to Spano, because once construction is complete, making Bldg. 12 a controlled-access area, the barriers behind (to the north of) the building will be removed so all the parking spaces will be available for those who work in the building.

For more information about force protection measures, please contact the 12 Air Force Force Protection Cell at 228-1007.



The 12th Edition



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NCOIC, Public Affairs.....TSgt. Karin Wickwire

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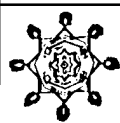
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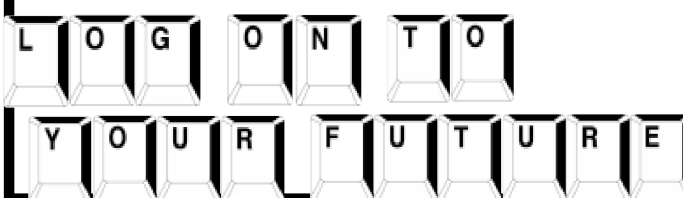
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SALUTE!

Congratulations to 12th AF warriors who recently were – or soon will be – promoted to the rank indicated and those who were recently awarded medals recognizing their accomplishments

Promotees

Airman 1st Class

Sheree Cotton
Julia Millsap
John Zic

Senior Airman

Michelle Brandel
Ronald Buchanan
Raymond Gibson

Staff Sgt

Thomas Burton
Kevin Fossett
Kenneth McGhee

Technical Sgt

Valerie Gordon

First Lieutenant

Gregory Demme

Captain

William Booe

Lieutenant Colonel

William Dries
Colonel
Paul Montgomery

Medal Recipients

Air Force Achievement Medal

SSgt Myra Heins (2 OLC)

Air Force Commendation Medal

Capt Carolyn Ammons (1 OLC)

Capt Gregory Foley

MSgt Frank Gorgos (4 OLC)

Meritorious Service Medal

CMSgt Michael Lane (4 OLC)

SMSgt Jeri Lara (4 OLC)

TSgt Kirt Riegler

MSgt Dayne Taylor

Legion of Merit

Brig Gen Mark Stearns (1 OLC)

Col David Tanaka

Quarterly awards

Company Grade Officer

1st Lt Alvin Quinones

Senior Civilian Employee

Ruth Dunn

Special Recognition

Ruth Dunn earned her 30 year pin for service to the government

Top of the 12th

SSgt. David Gibson is the NCOIC, 12th Air Force Protocol.

"SSgt Gibson has a winner's attitude. He makes a difference every day in the successes of the protocol office and our 'can do' reputation. He is the kind of person you need in a high stress environment like ours and continues to keep our morale high," said Lynn Goff, Chief, 12th Air Force Protocol.

Years of service: 13

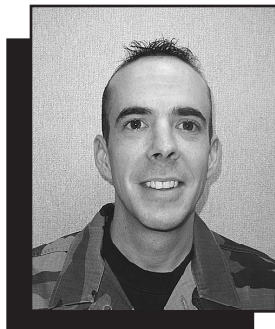
Hometown: Greenwood, S.C.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities: Responsible for all aspects of protocol in the 12 Air Force/US Southern Command Air Forces protocol office. Maintains all administrative and protocol duties and responsibilities for the office. Coordinates requirements with US Embassies, AFOSI, senior officers, base agencies, and community leaders to ensure successful execution of all protocol related activities. Prepares, publishes and distributes visitors' itineraries. Ensures lodging, transportation, customs, tours, briefings and any other requirements are arranged for all distinguished visitors. Designs/sends invitations, tracks reservations, advises on set-up of headquarters' ceremonies, conferences, banquets and dinners. Responsible for all resources including Operations and Maintenance Funds, memento stocks, Official Representation Funds, Special Morale and Welfare Fund and Latin American Cooperation Fund.

Favorite aspects of D-M: The weather.

If you could change one thing to improve D-M, what would it be? Nothing.

What motivates your winning attitude? Working with positive, motivated people.



SSgt. Gibson

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